

Supernova II Neutrino Bursts and Neutrino Massive Mixing*

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Abstract. We describe the Neutrino Spectrum and detection for SN II sources. We discuss the effects of neutrino mixing in the SN II. A new analysis of SN1987A is described. We discuss the possible detection of the diffuse relic SN II flux. Finally we discuss a new detection concept, OMNIS, for ν_μ and ν_τ and detection and compare with other present and future SN detectors.

1. INTRODUCTION OF THE NEUTRINO SPECTRUM FROM A SN II

The issue of whether or not neutrinos have masses is important for astrophysics and cosmology. Astrophysical considerations may represent the best hope for determining neutrino masses and mixings. In this paper, we examine how proposed neutral-current-based, supernova neutrino-burst detectors, in conjunction with the next generation water-Čerenkov detectors, could use a galactic supernova event to either measure or place constraints on the $\nu_{\mu,\tau}$ masses in excess of $5 \text{ eV}^{1,2}$. Such measurements would have important implications for our understanding of particle physics, cosmology, and the solar neutrino problem and would be complementary to proposed laboratory vacuum-oscillation experiments.

Table 1

Scheme	Tests					Nucleosynthesis	
	ν_\odot	ν_{atmos}	LBL	SBL	SN ν 's	BBN	SNN
I 3 ν mixing No LSND	Yes $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_{\mu,\tau}$	Yes $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$	Yes $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$	No $\nu_\tau \rightarrow \nu_e$ $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ τ appearance?	✓	OK $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$	OK
II 4 ν mixing $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$ (Doublet) $\nu_\odot \rightarrow \nu_s$ LSND	Yes $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_s$ (No extra N.C. signal)	Yes $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$	Yes $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$	No? $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\tau$ τ appearance? $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\tau?$ $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu?$	✓ Hot ? Maybe! Maybe!	D/N ν_e -spectrum ?	?? Good or bad ??
III 4 ν mixing $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_s$ Doublet No LSND	Yes $\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\mu$	Yes $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_s$	Yes $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_s$	No $m_{\nu\tau}$ $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau?$	✓ ?	? T of F	r-process constraint

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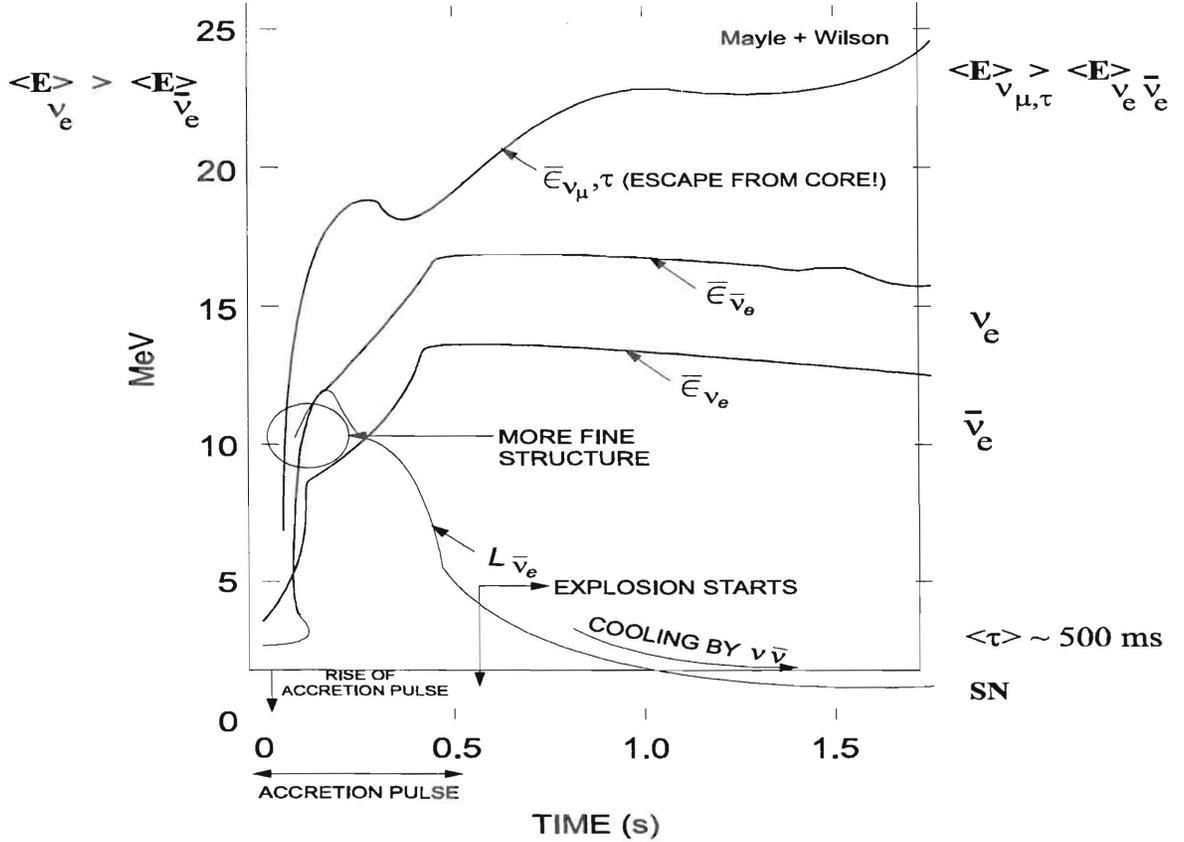


Fig. 1. The expected neutrino luminosity and average energy of the different species following the work of Mayle and Wilson.

A light neutrino mass between 1 eV and 100 eV would be highly significant for cosmology. In fact, if a neutrino contributes a fraction Ω_ν of the closure density of the Universe, it must have a mass $m_\nu \approx 92 \Omega_\nu h^2 \text{ eV}$, where h is the Hubble parameter in units of $100 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$. Reasonable ranges for Ω_ν and h then give 1 eV to 30 eV as a cosmologically significant range. A neutrino with a mass in the higher end of this range (*i.e.*, $10 \leq m_\nu \leq 30 \text{ eV}$) could contribute significantly to the closure density of the Universe. The cosmic background explorer (COBE) observation of anisotropy in the microwave background, combined with observations at smaller scales, and the distribution of galaxy streaming velocities, have been interpreted as implying that there are two components of dark matter: hot ($\Omega_{\text{HDM}} \sim 0.3$) and cold ($\Omega_{\text{CDM}} \sim 0.6$). The hot dark matter (HDM) component could be provided by a neutrino with a mass of about 7 eV.¹

2. EFFECTS OF NEUTRINO MIXING FOR SN II

SN II emit all types of neutrinos and anti-neutrinos with about the same luminosity per neutrino on anti-neutrino species. The expected energy spectrum is very different as can be seen in Fig. 2. Table 1 gives a set of options

¹While current cosmological data do not favor this, it is not completely excluded.

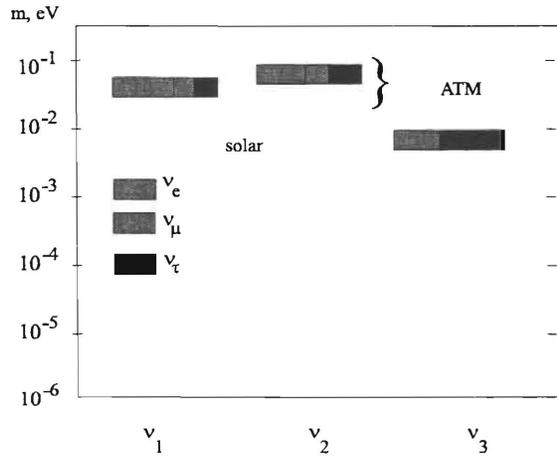
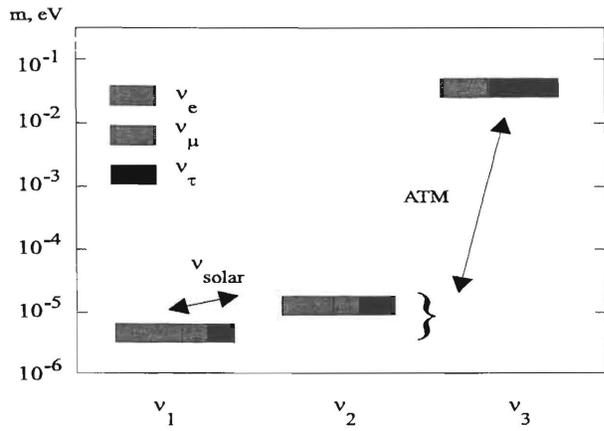
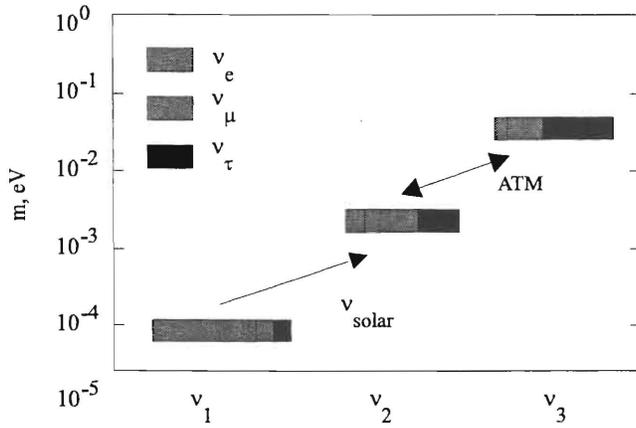


Fig. 2a, 2b, 2c. Different schemes for the Neutrino Mass spectrum adopted from Ref. 3.

for mixing and tests.

The possible different models of neutrino mass is shown in Fig. 2. These different mass structures have important consequences for the MSW effect in the SN II and the search for the correct neutrino mass spectrum.

3. A NEW ANALYSIS OF SN1987A AND THE LMA SOLAR NEUTRINO SOLUTION

Because the ν_x spectrum is expected to be harder than the ν_e or $\bar{\nu}_e$ (Fig. 3), one signature for neutrino oscillation is to observe a hard component in the ν_e or $\bar{\nu}_e$ spectrum from the process $\nu_x \rightarrow \nu_e$ or $\bar{\nu}_x \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ [2]. We can define the neutrino flux in the following way:

$$\langle \nu_e \rangle = (1 - p) \langle \nu_e \rangle_0 + p \langle \nu_x \rangle_0 \quad , \quad (1)$$

$$\langle \bar{\nu}_e \rangle = (1 - \bar{p}) \langle \bar{\nu}_e \rangle_0 + \bar{p} \langle \bar{\nu}_x \rangle_0 \quad , \quad (2)$$

where $\langle \nu_e \rangle_0$, $\langle \bar{\nu}_e \rangle_0$, $\langle \nu_x \rangle_0$, $\langle \bar{\nu}_x \rangle_0$ denote the unmixed neutrino spectra and p, \bar{p} the mixing fraction.

In vacuum, we can write $p = (1/2) \sin^2 2\theta$ and $\bar{p} = (1/2) \sin^2 2\theta$. Figure 3 shows the distorted $\bar{\nu}_e$ event spectrum for various values of \bar{p} . Thus, even a small mixing ($\bar{p} = 0.2$) causes an appreciable event spectrum distortion at high energy and should be readily detected in the next supernova event.

As is well known, there were 20 events recorded in SN1987A: 12 by the Kamiokande detector [4] and 8 by the IMB detector [5]. We first turn to the initial analysis of L. Krauss [6].

First we comment on the Kamiokande and IMB event populations:

1. The IMB detector had a strong bias against low energy events.
2. The mass of the IMB detector was about three times larger than the Kamiokande detector and thus was more sensitive to higher energy neutrino events that are less probable.
3. The Kamiokande detector had excellent low energy properties, as was later demonstrated by the observation of solar neutrinos.
4. Some of the pmt's for the IMB detector were not operational during the recording of SN1987A events.

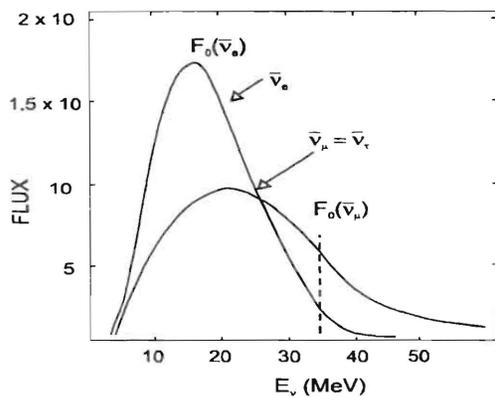


Figure 3. Expected $\bar{\nu}_e$ and $\bar{\nu}_x$ spectra from an SNII explosion.

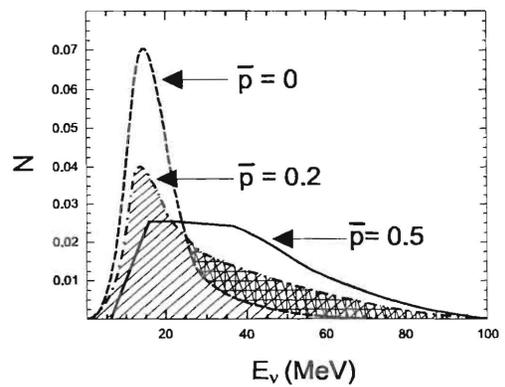


Figure 4. Events distribution expected for different values of the mixing \bar{p} .

In the Krauss analysis, an attempt was made to incorporate both populations of events by correcting the model as shown in Fig. 5. While this showed an acceptable fit, the mean temperature of the distribution was 4.5 MeV, which was higher than would be expected normally.

Smirnov, Spergel, and Bahcall tried another analysis [7]. They fit the combined Kamiokande and IMB data with a model that allowed for $\nu_x - \nu_e$ mixing as given by formula (2). They did not correct for the obvious differences in the Kamiokande and IMB event population (threshold, different detector, masses, possible differences in detection efficiency, etc.) but just added up the integral of the total event energies. They gave an exhaustive discussion of the different types of temperature distributions that may occur for the different neutrino flavors from the supernova emission. They expressed their results as a function of the mean energy of the ν_x neutrinos. Since most models gave this value to be 22 MeV or greater, we use that value in the results shown here. In Fig. 5, we have replotted the results of this analysis for the 95% confidence level reported in the paper. Note that most of the LMA and all of the vacuum oscillation (or “just so”) is excluded.

One can be critical of this analysis due to the fact that no attempt was made to correct for the different experimental conditions in the Kamiokande and IMB experiments. However, these results may well be a conservative lower limit, since corrections for the experimental differences will decrease the impact of the high energy events in IMB, as shown by the Krauss analysis.

3a. A NEW ANALYSIS OF THE SN1987A DATA FOR NEUTRINO MIXING

Because of the problems of comparing the two populations of events illustrated in points 1 through 4 above, we propose that a sensible analysis should use the data set with the least bias. Based on the Kamiokande data alone, while this set has no event with an energy above 40 MeV, there is no reason why the detector would not have recorded such events had they been produced. In Fig. 6, we show the Kamiokande data and the predictions of neutrino mixing (Fig. 3). The case $\bar{p} = 1/2$ is excluded to at least 99% confidence level. Even with a lower statistical sample, the conclusions of this analysis are as powerful as those of Smirnov, Spergel, and Bahcall. Table 2 gives the Kolmogorov test for these data [8]. We believe these results largely exclude the LMA solar neutrino solution.

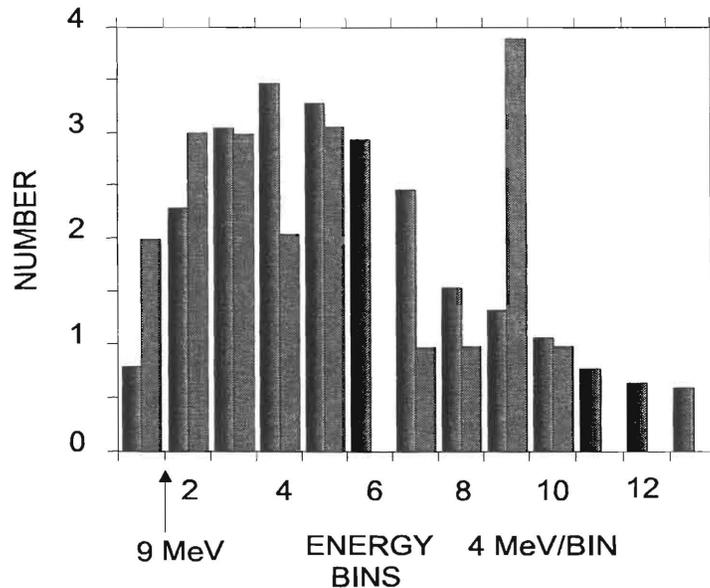


Figure 5. Krauss analysis of SN1987A data. The hatched events are the combined data and the solid blocks are the results of a model that incorporates the effects of the detectors, etc. [6]. Neutrino mixing was not assumed.

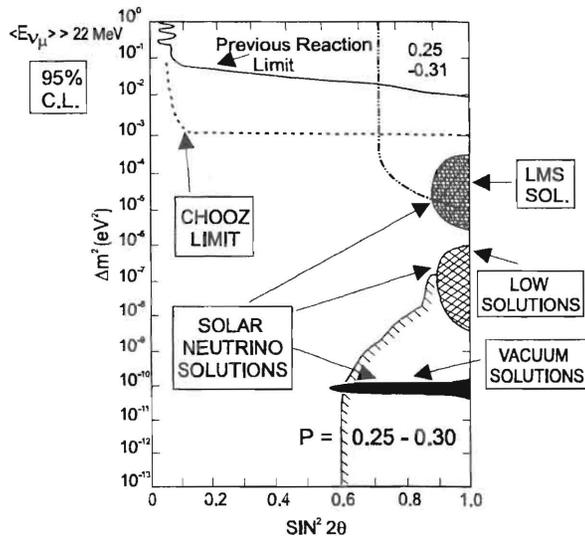


Figure 6. Limits on from SN1987A (from Ref. [7]).

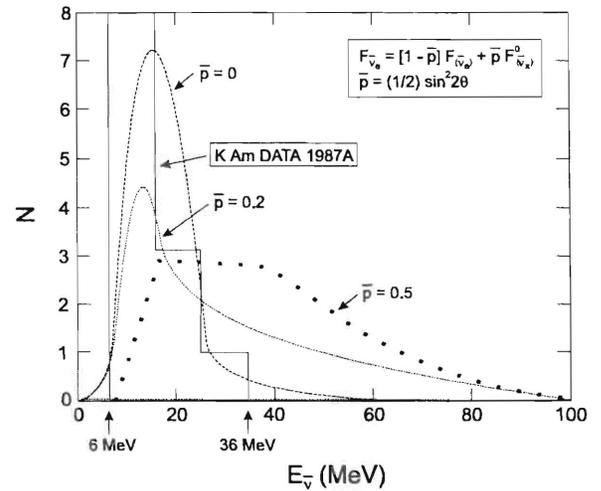


Figure 7. Comparison of the Kamiokande data with the neutrino oscillation models.

Table 2. Kolmogorov Test for the Model and data in Fig. 8.

Parameter, \bar{p}	Probability of Hypothesis (%) Confidence Level (%)
0	58 42
0.2	3.6 96.4 excluded
0.5	0.02 > 99 excluded

4. POSSIBLE DETECTION OF THE DIFFERENT RELIC NEUTRINO FLUX FROM PAST SN II

Another kind of relic neutrinos are the neutrinos that arise from the integrated flux from all past type-II supernovae. Figure 8 shows a schematic of these (and other) fluxes. These fluxes could be modified by transmission through the SNI environment, as discussed recently. [1]

The detection of $\bar{\nu}_e$ from the relic supernovae may someday be accomplished by the SK detector. It would be as interesting to detect ν_e with an ICARUS detector, as illustrated in Table 3. High-energy ν_e would come from $\nu_{\mu,\tau} \rightarrow \nu_e$ in the supernova. A window of detection occurs between the upper solar neutrino energy and the atmospheric neutrinos, as first proposed by D. Cline and reported in the first ICARUS proposal (1983-1985). The ideal detector to observe this is a large ICARUS liquid-argon detector. [1]

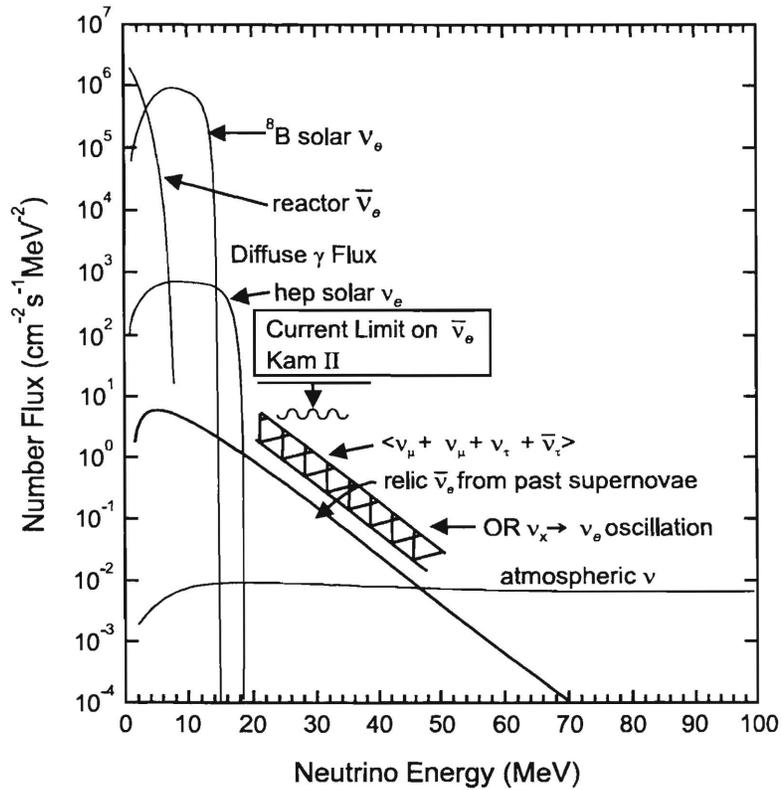


FIGURE 8. Relic neutrinos from past supernova. Note: $\nu_x \rightarrow \nu_e$ in the supernova can boost the energy of the ν_e if we find $\langle E \nu_e \rangle > \langle E \bar{\nu}_e \rangle$. This will be a signal for neutrino oscillation in supernovae! and measure $\sin^2 \theta_{x_e}$. [1]

Table 3. Detection of $\nu/\bar{\nu}_e$ relic neutrino flux from time integrated SNII.

1. Relic $\nu/\bar{\nu}_e$ from all SNII back to $Z \sim 5$: $\langle E_{\nu} \rangle \sim 1/(1+Z) \langle E_{\nu} \rangle$
2. Detection would give integrated SNII rate from Universe
- Window of detection [D. Cline, ICARUS proposal, 1984]
3. Neutrino oscillations in SNII would give $\nu_x \rightarrow \nu_e$ with higher energy than $\bar{\nu}_e$
4. Detect $\bar{\nu}_e$ with SK or ICARUS. Attempt to detect ν_x/ν_e detection.

5. THE OMNIS DETECTOR CONCEPT AND OTHER SUPER NOVA NEUTRINO DETECTORS

Recently there has been real progress in supernova simulations giving an explosion. These calculations give

TABLE 5: YIELDS OF SUPERNOVA NEUTRINO DETECTORS

Detector	Target Material	Fiducial Mass (Ton)	Target Element	Yield (ν_e)	Yield ($\bar{\nu}_e$)	Yield ($\nu_\mu + \nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\tau$)
Super K	H_2O	32000	p, e, O	180	8300	50
LVD	CH_2	1200	p, e, C	14	540	30
SNO	H_2O	1600	p, e, O	16	520	6
SNO	D_2O	1000	d, e, O	190	180	300
OMNIS	Fe	8000	Fe	20*	20*	1200*
OMNIS	Pb	2000	Pb			
no osc.				110**	40**	860**
$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_e$ osc.				≤ 4420 **	40**	≤ 640 **

* Assumes same efficiency as in Smith 1997

** Assumes a single neutron detection efficiency of 0.6

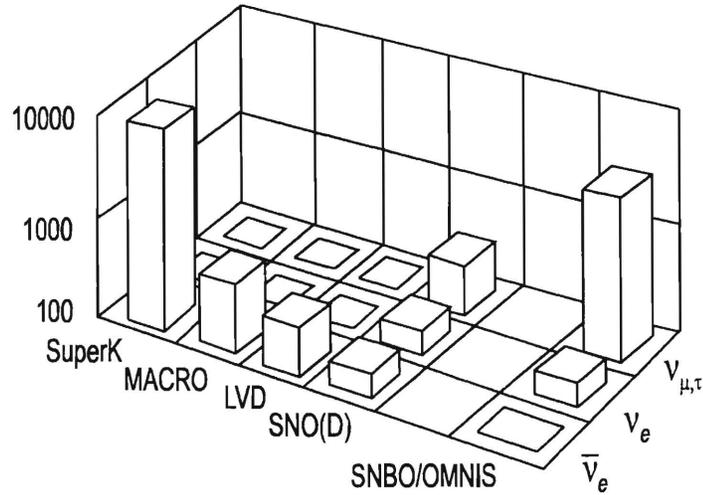


FIGURE 10. Comparison of world detectors (event numbers for supernovae at 8 kpc).

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